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| <b>No. 11</b> | <b>Bioengineering Section</b> | <b>John K. Johnson</b> |
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TO: **John Boreman**, President  
FROM: BioEngineering Section  
DATE: 7/16/2013

Info for Annual Meeting

**I. Motion Report** – none proposed for Annual meeting.

**II. Activity Report**

**(A) BioEngineering Section Organization**

- a. Current Section Officers and Executive Committee (EXCOM) members through August 10, 2013 include:
  - a.i. John K Johnson, President (503-928-4378, [John@K35Resources.com](mailto:John@K35Resources.com))
  - a.ii. Ted Castro-Santos, Immediate Past-President
  - a.iii. Laura Wildman, President-Elect (860.652.8911, [lwildman@princetonhydro.com](mailto:lwildman@princetonhydro.com))
  - a.iv. Michael Garelo, Secretary-Treasurer
  - a.v. Committee Chairs
    - a.v.1. Doug Dixon—Continuing Education
    - a.v.2. Jonathan Black—Emerging Technology
- b. Officers After Little Rock Annual Meeting 9/10/2013
  - b.i. Laura Wildman, President (860.652.8911, [lwildman@princetonhydro.com](mailto:lwildman@princetonhydro.com))
  - b.ii. Michael Garelo, President-Elect
  - b.iii. Jonathan Black, Secretary-Treasurer

- b.iv. John K. Johnson, Immediate Past-President
- c. EXCOM telephone conferences are held monthly, typically on the second Tuesday.
- d. Section Membership has been increasing and is currently approximately 384 as of June 30, 2013.

**(B) Summary of Outcomes and Accomplishments** Organized by Focus Area in AFS Strategic Plan.

**a. Goal 1 Global Fisheries Leadership**

a.i. AFS BES/ASCE-EWRI:

a.i.1. The BioEngineering Section (BES) currently participates in a joint Ad Hoc committee with the American Society of Civil Engineers' Environmental and Water Resource Institute (ASCE-EWRI.) BES President-Elect Laura Wildman is currently representing BES on this Committee.

a.i.2. This past year this joint effort continued to build the, previously established, consolidated database of fisheries engineering papers housed at UMass (<http://scholarworks.umass.edu/fishpassage/>).

a.i.3. This Ad Hoc committee is also working with UMASS, USFWS, ASCE and AFS, working to coordinate a national, annual, fish passage conference in coordination, with the next one being in Madison, WI. The third, and highly successful, Fish Passage Conference was held in Corvallis, OR in June 2013. (<http://fishpassage.umass.edu/>) (Objective 1.1)

a.i.4. This year the joint committee also established and awarded the first joint AFS-BES ASCE-EWRI award for "Distinguished Project in Fisheries and Ecohydrology".

a.ii. *Emerging Technology Committee:* The Bioengineering Section established an ad hoc Emerging Technology committee in 2007. This committee's intent is to provide strategic support and technical guidance for those who are pursuing either the development of new fish passage and intake protection technologies or the use of existing technologies in unusual and innovative conditions (e.g., as fish collection devices or as barriers to fish passage). The current committee is under the chairmanship of Jon Black of Alden Laboratories. The BES webpage (<http://www.fisheriessociety.org/bes/committees.html>) contains contact information so that proponents of new technology will know who to contact within the BioEngineering Section. This contact will 1)

make an initial assessment and inform the proponents of the product's likelihood of usefulness, 2) attempt to explain the processes needed to attain regulatory and industry acceptance and utilization, and 3) report back to the Excom on this interaction for instructions on how to proceed.

a.iii. Continuing Education Committee: Under the direction of BES Past-President and Chair Doug Dixon the Continuing Education Committee has traditionally conducted training in conjunction with the annual AFS meetings. Unfortunately, a course on the implications of the anticipated EPA 316b rulemaking (fish protection at cooling water intakes to thermal power plants and other industries) that was scheduled for Little Rock was cancelled after EPA announced they reached a settlement agreement extending the deadline for issuing new rules until after the AFS meeting. The continuing education committee is currently exploring the opportunity to teach a similar course at regional meetings this fall.

**b. Goal 2 Education/Continuing Education**

b.i. We are continuing our support for the Ned Taft Student Travel Award intended to fund student attendance at Annual AFS meetings, for one or two students. We made one award this year to Elsa Goerig who is a full-time Ph.D student *at INRS Centre Eau Terre et Environnement* where she is conducting research on brook trout passage through culverts. (Objective 2.1)

b.ii. BES has typically sponsored continuing education courses in conjunction with AFS Annual Meetings, and expects that this activity will continue although not at this year's meeting (see B.a.iii. above). (Objective 1.1)

b.iii. BES has posted on our webpage guidelines for fisheries engineering academic curricula <http://www.fisheriessociety.org/bes/edu.html> (Objective 2.1)

**c. Goal 3 Value of Membership**

c.i. BES is re-assessing our utilization of on-line networking tools including: social networking sites (Linked-In: "The Bioengineering Section of the American Fisheries Society" and Twitter: "@AFSBioEngrSect"), our webpage (<http://www.fisheriessociety.org/bes/>), and our listserver ([bioeng@lists.fisheries.org](mailto:bioeng@lists.fisheries.org)). We hope, at the Governing Board meeting, to discuss the Society's plans for a standardized web template for Sections and Chapters, such that we can better update our website.. (Objectives 3.1, 3.2, 3.5)

c.ii. In 2012 we sent out a Questionnaire to all our Members asking their input on the management and objectives of BES. The results will serve to inform the BES leadership when making

future decisions. (Objective 3.1) Below is a quick overview of the responses:

c.ii.1. Name change: About half of the respondents thought the name should be changed, and about half did not. That didn't seem to be enough of a mandate to actually change anything. Status: not proceeding.

c.ii.2. Fish Culture: A number of people supported not including fish culture as one of the BioEngineering Sections activities, primarily because the Fish Culture Section is alive and robust; however, that, too, did not seem a strong enough reason to disassociate ourselves from fish culture. Status: no change; fish culture remains of relevance to many in BioEngineering Section.

c.ii.3. What should we not be involved in?: A number of Members pointed out that ocean energy projects (wave, tidal, etc.) are outside the current--primarily inland--expertise of most of our Members, therefore proposed that we should not try to be involved as a Section (such as sponsoring conferences, etc.) Nevertheless, we do have a few Members who are deeply involved, namely Members who are employees of regulatory agencies, and we believe this issue could be more important for our Members in the future: Outcome: Keep ocean energy involvement options open, subject to future discussion.

(C) **Section Finances:**

a. The Section has a treasury balance of approximately \$23,000. Revenue sources are principally from the \$10 section dues (raised from \$5 in 2012). (There was a miscommunication this year about the dues, however: those who renewed online will be paying \$10 this year, while those who used the paper forms will be paying \$5. The BES Excom decided that correction of this error was not worth the effort, and this disparity in dues will persist until the next dues cycle corrects this anomaly.)

b. At times revenues have also included fees from continuing education courses and publications.

c. Funding of travel costs to the Mid-Year meeting is typically reimbursed to the BES President.

d. A separate financial report will be submitted to the Executive Director.

End